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WORLD NEWS DIGEST WITH INDEX

Published Weekly. In 2 Sections—Section I

Vol. XXI, No. 1063 Mar. 9-15, 1961

MAR 23 1961

WORLD AFFAIRS

Congo Confederation Set

Madagascar Proclamation. A new confederation of Congo states was proclaimed by Congolese political leaders Mar. 12 at the end of a 5-day round table conference in Tananarive, Malagasy Republic.

The confederal agreement was reached by the leaders of the central Congolese government, Katanga Province, and several other provincial political groupings. It did not have the support of Antoine Gizenga, premier of the rebel government based in Stanleyville and head of the leftist political movement that controlled ⅓ of the Congo's territory.

The agreement was the 2d step taken by anti-Gizenga forces to halt the leftists' spread. [See p. 70D2]

The Madagascar conference, presided over by Congo Pres. Kasavubu, was convened at the suggestion of Katanga Pres. Tshombe. Scheduled to begin in Tananarive Mar. 6, it was delayed for 2 days in the hope that Gizenga and other leftist leaders would attend. It was opened Mar. 8 after Gizenga said in a statement issued through his mission to the UAR that he considered himself the legal premier of the Congo and would not go to Tananarive.

Major provisions of the confederal agreement, as outlined in a final communiqué issued Mar. 12:

- The "ex-Belgian Congo will form a confederation of states represented on the international plane by a president. . . . Joseph Kasavubu was proclaimed president. . . ."
- A "Council of States" composed of Kasavubu and the heads of the member states "will determine the general internal and international policies of the confederation."
- "An executive body called the Coordinating Body between states will carry out the council's decisions."
- "The central [Léopoldville] government will cease to exist when the coordinating body is set up."

The conference ratified the Feb. 28 military alliance concluded by the anti-Gizenga coalition and ordered formation of a front against "communism in the Congo." It adopted resolutions pledging participating groups to "respect neighboring states by abstaining from military action" and to support joint efforts to restore order in the Congo. Although no final decision was announced on the geographic constitution of the new confederation, delegates reported that it would consist of a federal district of Léopoldville and at least 7 states: Oriental, Kivu, Katanga, South Kasai, North Kasai, Equator, and Central Africa (Bakongo area).

The Madagascar conference was attended by Kasavubu, Tshombe, Premier Joseph Ileo of the central government, Albert Kalonji of South Kasai, Jean Bolikango of Equator, Cleophas Kamitatu of Léopoldville, Joseph Tshomba of Kivu, Barthelemy Mukenge of North Kasai, and Vital Moanda of the Bakongo district.

(At least 2 provincial leaders who did not attend the Madagascar conference proclaimed independent republics Mar. 14. Jacques Massa, a member of the Ileo cabinet and acting premier during Ileo's absence in Tananarive, proclaimed a Maindombe State in the northern section of Léopoldville Province. Jason Sendwe, an opponent of Pres. Tshombe, announced the establishment of a Lualaba State in northern Katanga.)

(The U.S. State Department said Mar. 13 that the Madagascar agreement seemed to represent "a serious effort on the part of the Congolese to come to grips with what is clearly their problem, . . . the nature of the government of the Congo." It urged, however, that the Gizenga regime be invited to attend further talks planned to implement the agreement.)

Confederation Vs. UN Role. In a series of messages transmitted to UN Secy. Gen. Hammarskjöld Mar. 8-14 by the Madagascar conferees, the new Congolese confederation demanded that the UN Force be curtailed.

The first messages, cabled Mar. 8-9 from Tananarive, demanded that the UN "abstain from all further action on the Congo pending the results of this conference." They warned that much of the current tension in the Congo had been caused by UN troops' actions under the Feb. 21 Security Council resolution permitting them to use force and that further unilateral UN action could worsen conditions.

The final communiqué made public in Tananarive Mar. 12 announced that the conference had cabled Hammarskjöld and UN Assembly Pres. Frederick H. Boland to ask "annulment" of the Feb. 21 UN resolution on the ground that it no longer was needed "since reunion has been achieved between [the Congo's] authorities."

2 messages sent to Hammarskjöld Mar. 14 by the conferees after their return to Elisabethville demanded that the UN (a) halt the impending arrival of Indian troops for the UN Force and (b) seek a decision on the legality of the Feb. 21 resolution from the International Court of Justice at The Hague. These messages were signed variously by "Authorities of the Confederation of Congo States," and "Authorities of the Confederation of Central African States."

UN Rejects Matadi Terms. The UN's rejection of Congolese demands that it submit its military operations to joint control in exchange for the return of UN Force troops to Matadi and Banana was made clear in a Hammarskjöld message Mar. 9 to Pres. Kasavubu.

The central Congolese government, in negotiations with Rajeshwar Dayal, had demanded that the UN Force give it equal control over all Congo ports, airports and transport facilities and all deployment and use of UN troops. Rejection of the Congolese terms was recommended in a report sent to Hammarskjöld Mar. 9 by Dayal. Hammarskjöld's message reportedly warned Kasavubu that he considered the current Congo situation a threat to world peace and would continue to conduct UN Force operations without Congolese permission.

Dayal left Léopoldville Mar. 10 and arrived in New York Mar. 14 to report to Hammarskjöld. Mekki Abbas of the Sudan was named Hammarskjöld's acting representative in the Congo during Dayal's absence.

Laos

Leftist Rebels Attack. An estimated 9 battalions of pro-Communist Pathet Lao troops launched a major offensive in central Laos Mar. 10 and cut the only highway between Vientiane, the administrative capital, and Luang Prabang, the royal capital.

The rebels, reportedly supported by artillery and light tanks, attacked Sala Pou Koun on the north-south Queen Astrid highway connecting Vientiane and Luang Prabang and drove government troops from the town Mar. 7. Government artillery fire prevented the rebels from occupying the town until Mar. 10. Simultaneous rebel attacks were made on Muong

Week in Headlines

Congolese leaders proclaimed confederation of Congo states after Madagascar conference, demanded UN Force curtailment.

Laotian rebels launched offensive with new Soviet arms; Gen. Phoumi Nosavan met Prince Souvanna in Cambodia, agreed on principles for ending fighting.

USSR launched, retrieved dog-carrying satellite; X-15 flew at record 2,905 mph.

Pres. Kennedy proposed 10-year U.S.-Latin program for hemisphere development, sent $3 billion housing program to Congress.

Patterson retained heavyweight title by KO over Johansson.

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Kassy, 22 miles south of Sala Pou Koun, and on Sala Pou Keng, 8 miles north of the highway center. Government troops surrendered Muong Kassy.

Vientiane dispatches said Mar. 11 that the rebels had cut the highway at a point 40 miles south of Luang Prabang and 100 miles north of Vientiane. The rebels were reported to have broken through government lines and to have routed government troops from the staging area needed for an attack on the rebels' Plaine des Jarres. The rebels were reported advancing on Vang Vieng, 60 miles north of Vientiane, Mar. 13.

Red Arms Buildup Reported. The N.Y. Times reported Mar. 3 from northern Laos that massive shipments of Soviet arms accompanied by North Vietnamese military advisors were on the way to the Pathet Lao rebels.

The Times dispatch, filed Mar. 1 from Phongsavan, provisional Pathet Lao capital in Xiengkhouang Province, reported that arms, including heavy artillery, armored cars, machineguns and munitions, were arriving in the capital weekly in convoys of Soviet-built trucks from Vinh, North Vietnam. An additional 45 tons of arms and supplies were said to be arriving in Xiengkhouang daily via a Soviet airlift from North Vietnam.

Rebel paratroop units commanded by Capt. Kong Le were said to have been replaced on all key fronts by regular Pathet Lao forces. All leftist forces, both paratroop and Pathet Lao units, were said to be commanded by Col. Sinkapo, the Pathet Lao military commander. North Vietnamese technicians were said to be actively aiding the rebel forces, particularly in the handling of artillery, communications and transport.

The U.S. State Department charged Mar. 3 that the report proved the USSR was "stalling the efforts to reach a genuine settlement while they move in more arms and solidify Communist control over the northern half of Laos."

Neutrals Reject Laos Role. Cambodia and Burma Feb. 25 rejected King Savang Vathana's appeal for their participation with Malaya in a commission to help restore peace in Laos and insure Laotian neutrality.

Cambodia rejected the proposal despite an appeal for its acceptance by Pres. Kennedy in a reported personal message to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian chief of state. Norodom, answering Kennedy's note Feb. 25, was said to have held that the proposed 3-power commission could not succeed unless it were able to operate in all areas of Laos. The rejection of the plan by the Pathet Lao and Prince Souvanna Phouma's rebel government meant that the proposed commission could not function in rebel-held northern Laos, Norodom declared.

Burmese Premier Nu rejected the proposal Feb. 25 on the ground that it would require Burmese recognition of the Boun Oum government. Nu said Burma had refused to recognize either of the 2 rival Laotian regimes.

The Malayan government was reported Feb. 25 to favor the 3-power commission but, in the absence of other support, it declined to agree to participate.

Souvanna Visits Rebels. Prince Souvanna landed in a rebel-held area of the Plaine des Jarres Feb. 22 for his first visit to Laos since fleeing to Cambodia after the collapse of his neutralist government in Dec. 1960.

Souvanna, who had permitted the formation of a provisional cabinet in his name in rebel-held northern Laos, previously had resisted demands for his personal presence among the rebels. The N.Y. Times reported Mar. 1 from Phongsavan that Souvanna had met with Prince Souphanouvong, his half-brother and leader of the Pathet Lao, during his visit. Souvanna was said to have traveled via Hanoi, where he saw North Vietnamese Pres. Ho Chi Minh.

In a statement issued after a meeting with his cabinet in Phongsavan Feb. 25, Souvanna said his government had "recognized all areas liberated by the [rebel] army" and planned to extend its authority into other areas. A declaration made public in Pnompenh Mar. 2, after Souvanna's return to Cambodia, called for: (1) creation of a coalition government including the Pathet Lao and withdrawal of U.S. personnel from Laos; (2) formation of "an entirely neutral, nonpolitical government"; (3) convening of a 14-nation conference on Laos to set up a commission to supervise the election of a new Laotian regime.

Government-Rebel Peace Talks. An agreement in principle on joint efforts to restore peace and neutrality in Laos was reached in Pnompenh Mar. 9-10 by Prince Souvanna and Gen. Phoumi Nosavan, representing the rightist Boun Oum government.

A joint communiqué issued by the 2 leaders after their 2-day meeting declared their full agreement that: (1) "a policy of strict neutrality and a neutralization of the country by treaty are fundamental bases to restore peace and national accord"; (2) "foreign interferences must cease to allow the restoration . . . of mutual confidence for national reconciliation"; (3) envoys of the Boun Oum government, Souvanna's neutralist regime and the Pathet Lao rebels would meet in Pnompenh to negotiate peace after the cessation of foreign intervention; (4) a Cambodian-Malayan-Burmese commission could aid the ending of foreign intervention in Laos.

The communiqué affirmed Phoumi's confidence in Souvanna as "the only Laotian statesman" capable of carrying out negotiations between the rightist government and Pathet Lao. It expressed support for a new 14-nation conference to arrange a final Laotian peace.

The joint communiqué was approved Mar. 13 by the Boun Oum cabinet in Vientiane.

ANZUS Leaders Meet. The ANZUS powers' concern over the Laotian situation was expressed at White House meetings held by Pres. Kennedy with Australian Prime Min. Robert G. Menzies Feb. 24 and New Zealand Prime Min. Keith J. Holyoake Mar. 3.

Mr. Kennedy and Menzies expressed hopes Feb. 24 that King Savang Vathana's proclamation of Laos' neutrality would "bear fruit" and would be respected by the USSR. Menzies told newsmen after the talks that the Soviet arms airlift to Laos' leftist rebels had made a settlement more difficult but not impossible. The 2 leaders affirmed strong support for the SEATO and ANZUS defense agreements.

A joint statement issued by Mr. Kennedy and Holyoake after their meeting Mar. 3 noted "with deep concern the hostile and aggressive attitude of the Chinese Communist regime and the particular menace it poses to the peace of Asia, Africa and Latin American." It stressed support for efforts to bring Laos "peace, security and neutrality." [See p. 63D2]

SPACE

USSR Retrieves Dog. A 4,700-kilogram (10,340-pound) space ship carrying a dog and other living "biological specimens" was launched into orbit by Soviet scientists Mar. 9 and recovered safely the same day. This was the USSR's 2d successful recovery of animals from orbit.

Tass said that the satellite, scientifically referred to as 1961 Theta 1, had gone into an orbit inclined at an angle of 64° 56′ to the equatorial plane and with an apogee of 155 miles and perigee of 115 miles. Tass said Theta 1 had been brought down by radio signal after an unspecified number of trips around the earth and had "landed on command in a pre-set area of the Soviet Union." The dog, a female named Chernushka (Blackie), "feels well," Tass asserted.

"The main object of this effort was a further improvement of space vehicle design and of life support equipment," Tass reported. It was revealed in Moscow Mar. 11 that the space ship's passengers included mice, guinea pigs and insects.

White House Press Secy. Pierre Salinger told reporters Mar. 9 that Pres. Kennedy had known of the launching before the announcement.

The U.S. NASA reported Mar. 10 that 2 parts of the Soviet satellite or its launching rocket were still in orbit. They were dubbed 1961 Theta 2, which was in an orbit ranging from 131 to 106 miles above the earth, and Theta 3, in a 118-107-mile-high orbit. [See pp. 80B-C1, 64D3, 53D1-E3; Vol. XX, 287C3-288A1, 438G1-B2]

Khrushchev Sees Flight Soon. Soviet Premier Khrushchev predicted in a speech in the Kazakh town of Akmolinsk Mar. 14 that "the time is not far off" when the USSR would send "the first space ship with a man on board . . . into space." [See p. 80C1]

X-15 Flies 2,905 Mph. U.S. Air Force Maj. Robert M. White, 36, flew the experimental X-15 rocket plane at a record speed of 2,905 mph.

FACTS ON FILE is published weekly by Facts on File, Inc., 119 W. 57th St., New York 19, N. Y. (COlumbus 5-2011-2). Entered as 2d class matter June 24, 1941 at the Post Office in New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription $95 a year; Yearbooks (bound volumes) from 1948—$25 each. Cumulative Index published twice a month. Copyright 1961 by Facts on File, Inc. Edw. Van Westerborg, President & Treasurer; Lester A. Sobel, Secretary & Editor; Bernard Messinger, Business Manager

over Edwards AF Base, Calif. Mar. 7. The flight tested a newly installed 640,000-horsepower XLR-99 engine capable of 57,000 pounds of thrust.

The X-15 was carried aloft by a B-52 and cut loose at an altitude of 45,000 feet. The top speed was achieved at an altitude of 75,000 feet. White indicated that he had opened the engine to only ⅔ throttle. It operated for only 2 minutes 6 seconds.

The skin of the X-15 heated up to a temperature of 700°F. during the flight, but White said his cockpit and pilot's suit cooling-pressurizing system had kept him comfortable.

The XLR-99 engine, built by the Thiokol Chemical Corp.'s Reaction Motors Division, burned ammonia fuel mixed with liquid oxygen. It was capable of being throttled from 30,000 pounds to full thrust and of being stopped and restarted in flight. [See p. 72A2-A3]

No Contact with Venus I. Pravda disclosed Mar. 3 that Soviet scientists had lost radio contact with the Venus I interplanetary probe Feb. 27. [See p. 80C2-B3]

Satellites Down. The U.S. NASA reported Mar. 1 that the Soviet Sputnik V satellite (1961 Beta I) had dropped out of orbit and had burned up on entering the earth's atmosphere Feb. 26. [See p. 53E2-E3]

The U.S. Air Force Space Surveillance Control Center in Bedford, Mass. reported Jan. 23 that the U.S.' Discoverer XIX satellite, launched Dec. 20, 1960, had dropped into the atmosphere and been destroyed, probably Jan. 22 after 524 or 525 trips in orbit. [See Vol. XX, p. 456B1]

(Discoverer XIII had been destroyed Nov. 14, 1960 after 1,498 revolutions around the earth, and Discoverer XVII was burned up Dec. 29 after 720 trips around the earth.) [See Vol. XX, pp. 455E-G3, 282B-E1]

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

The President

Kennedy Plan for Americas. Pres. Kennedy proposed Mar. 13 that the Latin American republics join the U.S. in a 10-year 10-point program whose goal would be "to build a hemisphere where all men can hope for the same high standard of living—and all can live out their lives in dignity and in freedom."

Mr. Kennedy presented his economic and social development plan at a White House reception for 250 Latin American diplomats and Congressional leaders. His speech, containing Spanish phrases and references to Latin American statesmen, was transmitted to Latin America over the Voice of America.

The President called for an effort to "transform the American continents into a vast crucible of revolutionary ideas and efforts . . . an example to all the world that liberty and progress walk hand in hand." "Let us once again awaken our American Revolution," he said, "until it guides the struggles of people everywhere—not with an imperialism of force or fear—but the rule of courage and freedom and hope for the future of man."

The message stressed that "political freedom must accompany material progress." It said: The proposed "new alliance for progress" "must work to eliminate tyranny from a hemisphere in which it has no rightful place. Therefore, let us express our special friendship to the people of Cuba and the Dominican Republic—and the hope that they will soon rejoin the society of free men, uniting with us in our common effort."

The motto for social change by free men, Mr. Kennedy said, "is what it has always been—'Progress, yes! Tyranny, no!' "

He set forth this 10-point program:

1. A 10-year plan should be started to raise living standards, provide basic education and food for all and enable each nation to be self-sustaining and "master of its own revolution of hope and progress." Only the individual nations themselves could "modify their social patterns so that all, and not just a privileged few, share in the fruits of growth."

2. A "massive planning effort" to head the alliance should be begun by the Inter-American Economic & Social Council. Each nation must formulate its own long-range development plans to be used as the basis for allocation of outside resources.

3. Congress had been asked to appropriate $500 million "as the first step in fulfilling the Act of Bogotá."

4. Economic integration, "which is a genuine step toward larger markets and greater competitive opportunity," must be supported.

5. The U.S. was "ready to cooperate in serious, case-by-case examinations of the commodity market problems."

6. The U.S. food-for-peace emergency program would be expanded. [See p. 58F1-A2]

7. The wonders of science must be brought to all through increased cooperation, including regional research laboratories, and expansion of the U.S.' science teacher-training programs to include Latin American instructors and establishment of such programs in Latin America.

8. Technical training programs must be expanded to "help fill the gap in trained manpower." The Peace Corps would be available for such work. [See p. 80D2-G3]

9. "We reaffirm our pledge to come to the defense of any American nation whose independence is endangered."

10. The U.S. invited Latin American nations to send teachers to the U.S. and to extend the opportunity for U.S. students to study in their universities. [See p. 37D-E1, F2]

Latin Funds Requested. Pres. Kennedy urged Congress in a special message Mar. 14 to appropriate immediately the $500 million already authorized for the Inter-American Fund for Social Progress.

The message said: "Economic growth without social progress lets the great majority of the people remain in poverty"; "throughout Latin America millions of people are struggling to free themselves from the bonds of poverty and hunger and ignorance"; "self-help and internal reform" would be "a condition of assistance from the social fund." Areas of self-help the message suggested were in the problems of "the uneven distribution of land," housing for the low-income worker, education and a "need for higher and more diversified agricultural production, better distribution of wealth and income, and wider sharing in . . . development."

The message warned that if the Act of Bogotá "becomes just another declaration," then "we face a grave and imminent danger that desperate peoples will turn to communism or other forms of tyranny."

The message asked Congress to appropriate $100 million already authorized to aid southern Chilean areas devastated by fire and earthquakes. [See Vol. XX, p. 297A3]

Housing Message. Pres. Kennedy Mar. 9 sent Congress a housing message in which he outlined a program (a) "to renew our cities and assure sound growth of our rapidly expanding metropolitan areas"; (b) "to provide decent housing for all our people"; (c) "to encourage a prosperous and efficient construction industry. . . ." He also proposed the establishment of a cabinet-rank Housing & Urban Affairs Department.

(The cost of the program was estimated unofficially at more than $3 billion in loans and grants over a 5-year period. The cost for fiscal 1962 would be nearly $800 million, excluding loans.)

The message, largely drafted from proposals of Dr. Robert C. Weaver, head of the Housing and Home Finance Agency (HHFA), said: 14 million families lived in substandard homes; 39 million families were affected by "the encroachment of blight and slums"; "haphazard and inefficient suburban expansion" had "engulfed" about 1,000,000 acres a year; construction workers had the highest rate of unemployment in 1960 (one out of every 6) of any major U.S. industry.

The message recommended:

For moderate-income families—(a) FHA insurance of no-down-payment, 40-year mortgages should be extended to "any family" and made "more attractive"; (b) long-term, low-interest-rate loans, financed by the Federal National Mortgage Association and supervised by the FHA, should be made available to cooperatives, nonprofit associations, limited dividend corporations and housing authorities for rental and cooperative housing.

For low-income families—(a) The limitation on the 1949 Housing Act should be removed to allow authorization of construction of about 100,000 more units; (b) local housing authorities should be allowed "greater freedom" to determine design and to set admission priorities; (c) communities should be given the opportunity through demonstration grants to experiment in lower income housing.

For the elderly—Direct-loan authorization should be increased from $50 million to $100 million; the Public Housing Law should be amended to increase the cost limitation by $500

per room; an additional subsidy of up to $10 per month for each occupied housing unit should be authorized.

(The President said he had directed the HHFA administrator to earmark 50,000 units of low-rent public housing for the low-income elderly.)

For urban renewal—(a) Authorizations totaling $2½ billion over a 4-year period should be made available; (b) local communities should be given wider discretion to determine renewal areas; (c) allowances for relocation payments to displaced businessmen should be liberalized; (d) the FHA should be given new authority to insure a wide variety of home improvement loans; (e) the resale of existing housing in urban renewal areas should be allowed at a realistic price for rehabilitation; (f) the federal share of planning grants should be increased to ⅔ and the authorization increased from $20 million to $100 million; (g) 2 programs should be developed, one providing $100 million for 20% grants to help public bodies finance the reservation of land for parks and other facilities, and one for urban renewal loans to help local agencies finance the buying of open space for future public or private development; (h) an additional $50 million for public facilities loans should be authorized.

The President had ordered the HHFA administrator: (1) to work with local officials to develop long-term, over-all, instead of project-by-project, programs; (2) to work with the Interior Secretary to develop a long-range program for dealing with open space; (3) to work with the Commerce Secretary on an extensive study of transportation problems.

For rural housing—The unused balance of farm housing loan authority should be extended for 5 more years; farm home improvement loans should be allowed "to be secured" by mortgages or other security.

The Agriculture Secretary was ordered to cooperate with the HHFA and Veterans Administration to develop ways to assure adequate credit for farm and other housing.

For veterans—The duration of the loan guarantee and direct loan programs should be extended, the direct loan authority of $150 million should be expanded "to the extent experience" demonstrated that guaranteed loans "were still difficult to obtain."

For training & research — Funds should be appropriated, as authorized under the 1948 and 1956 housing acts, for private industry to do research on housing and urban problems. FHA insurance authorization should be enacted to help finance new approaches to home design and construction. [See pp. 43E-F3, 14E1-C2]

Satellite Aid Urged. Pres. Kennedy proposed in a letter to Congressional leaders Mar. 7 that Congress amend the Battle Act by authorizing economic aid to East European Communist nations. An Administration bill for such aid had been introduced Feb. 10 by Rep. Cornelius E. Gallagher (D., N.J.) of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Gallagher said he hoped to explore with the Polish government the possibility of using the U.S.' frozen Polish funds on projects of peace. [See p. 37F1]

Roads Bill. Pres. Kennedy submitted to Congress Mar. 14 a draft bill of his $40 billion pay-as-you-drive highway program. [See p. 73E1-E2]

Committees Abolished. 17 interdepartmental committees, including 16 established during the Eisenhower Administration, were abolished by Pres. Kennedy Mar. 11 to "clarify and pinpoint executive responsibility" and consolidate governmental duties.

The committees abolished: Presidential Advisory Committee on Water Resources Policy; Cabinet Committee on Energy Supplies & Resources Policies; Telecommunications Advisory Board; Cabinet Committee on Transport Policy & Organization; Ad Hoc Interagency Committee on Metropolitan Area Problems; Special Committee on Post-Attack Indemnification Policy; Personnel Security Advisory Committee; Interdepartmental Committee on Congressional Investigation; President's Committee on Fund Raising Within the Federal Service; Public Works Advisory Committee; Textile Interagency Committee; Council on Foreign Economic Policy; Informal Cabinet Committee on Balance-of-Payments Problems; Committee on Governmental Activities Affecting Prices & Costs; Cabinet Committee on Price Stability & Economic Growth; Government Patents Board (established 1950); Cabinet Committee on Facsimile Mail. [See p. 81B-C2]

(Postmaster Gen. J. Edward Day said Mar. 7 that the experimental facsimile speed mail program would be discontinued as too costly. He said $4½ million had been spent on it.)

Mitchell Quits Rail Panel. Pres. Kennedy Feb. 14 accepted the resignation of James P. Mitchell as chairman of the President's commission on railroad-union work-rules disputes. Mitchell said it was "impossible" to continue in the post because of his candidacy for the New Jersey GOP gubernatorial nomination.

Ex-U.S. Judge Simon H. Rifkind, 60, was named chairman of the commission by Mr. Kennedy Mar. 4. [See p. 47B1]

Clerical Automation. Pres. Kennedy received from Rep. Elmer J. Holland (D., Pa.) a report that said 25% of U.S. office and clerical jobs had been eliminated by electronic machines in the past 5 years. The study, made public Feb. 3, estimated that machines would eliminate 4 million clerical jobs in the next 5 years. [See p. 66B1]

Congress

Jobless Aid Voted. The House Mar. 1 passed and sent to the Senate by a 392-30 vote (248 D. & 144 R. vs. 28 R. & 2 D.) a bill (HR4806) to extend unemployment compensation to workers who exhausted their benefits under state unemployment insurance programs. The bill, the first major anti-recession measure to pass either chamber, would provide about $900 million in federal funds for an estimated 3 million workers. The employers' payroll tax would be raised from 3.1% to 3.5% during 1962-63 to finance the program.

The House Ways & Means Committee had dropped from the bill, at the request of business groups, Pres. Kennedy's proposal to raise from $3,000 to $4,800 the yearly wage base on which employers paid taxes. The committee had reported the bill Feb. 25 after approving it Feb. 23. Reps. James B. Utt (R., Calif.) and Bruce Alger (R., Tex.) reportedly were the only 2 committee members to vote against it. [See p. 45F2]

Aid for Needy Children. The House Mar. 10 passed by voice vote and sent to the Senate an Administration-backed bill (HR4884) to authorize $305 million in federal money for an aid program (to expire June 30, 1962) for needy children of unemployed parents.

10 states had indicated, primarily because they would have to provide about $4 for each $6 provided by the U.S., that they would not participate in the program. Non-participating states: Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Mississippi, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, South Carolina and Virginia. [See p. 45F-G2]

Feed-Grains Bill. Emergency feed-grains bills backed by the Administration were passed by the House Mar. 9 and by the Senate Mar. 10 and sent to a joint conference committee to resolve differences. The major difference was Senate elimination of a controversial House provision (Section 3) that would enable the government to sell its surplus grains at any price not less than 17% below the support level. The provision had been requested by Agriculture Secy. Orville L. Freeman as a "warning" to farmers to participate in the proposed acreage-reduction provisions.

The vote on the House bill (HR4510) was 209-202 (205 D. & 4 R. vs. 161 R. & 41 D.). Before passage, the House had defeated by a 214-196 vote a motion by Rep. Clifford G. McIntire (R., Me.) to eliminate Section 3. The opponents of Section 3, led by Rep. Charles B. Hoeven (R., Ia.), contended that it would make Freeman a "czar" and disrupt the grains market. Republican Midwesterners said they feared it would release cheap feed on the market and spur meat production to the point of price collapse.

Defenders of Section 3, led by House Agriculture Committee Chrmn. Harold D. Cooley (D., N.C.) and Vice Chrmn. W. R. Poage (D., Tex.), argued that without Section 3's implied "warning" too few farmers would join the program to make it work. Freeman had said Feb. 16 that compliance of 60% of the farmers might be enough to make the program succeed.

A Republican attempt to put a 75%-of-parity support ceiling on corn prices was defeated Mar. 8 by a 165-103 vote.

Freeman told a House Agriculture subcommittee Feb. 21 that he was "asking for limited powers . . . not unlimited." In subcommittee hearings Feb. 22, witnesses for the National Grange and the National Farmers Union endorsed the program, but the American Farm Bureau Federation's spokesmen called it "unworkable." Freeman told the Senate Agriculture Committee Feb. 23 that unless Congress completed action on the bill by Mar. 15—before widespread commercial corn planting—it might as well do nothing.

The Senate bill was passed Mar. 10 by a 52-26 vote (41 D. & 11 R. vs. 18 R. & 8 D.). In the Senate version, Section 3 of the House bill was replaced by a section that required a farmer to reduce feed-grains acreage by 30% to be eligible for price supports.

Under the Senate version, farmers would get cash for ½ of the value of the crop they could have grown on ½ the retired acreage plus compensation in kind from surplus stocks of 60% of the value of the potential crop on the other ½ of the acreage. The support-price for corn would be $1.20 a bushel.

The House bill would require a 20% acreage reduction for price support eligibility and would provide cash payment for ½ the value of the potential crop. Farmers retiring an additional 20% acreage would be paid in kind for 60% of the potential crop. The corn support-price would be $1 a bushel.

Pres. Kennedy said at his news conference Mar. 15 that he was "hopeful" the conference would give the Agriculture Secretary Section 3-type powers. "If the secretary lacks powers—this bill isn't going to be successful," Mr. Kennedy predicted, and "noncompliers . . . may use the program . . . for speculative and exploitive purposes." [See p. 73G2-B3]

New Judgeships Approved. The Senate Mar. 3 passed and sent to the House a bill (S912) to create 73 new federal judgeships. Sen. Henry C. Dworshak (R., Ida.) cast the only opposed voice vote among the 23 Senators present on the floor. Pres. Kennedy had asked for 59 new judgeships. The bill provided for 10 new Appeals Court judgeships and 63 new district court judgeships in 32 states and Puerto Rico. [See p. 55C1]

Recession & Unemployment

Upturn Predicted. Dr. Walter W. Heller, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, predicted at a Joint Congressional Economic Committee hearing Mar. 6 that "an upturn [in the economy] may come in the next few months but . . . will be just the beginning of the end of the recession."

Heller gave the committee his council's 56-page statement on the economy. It said: hopes for an upturn were based mainly on "a possible rise in consumer spending aided by the stimulus of the President's programs, the continued upward trend in local, state and federal government purchases, and some prospect of an assist from inventories" (the Commerce Department reported Feb. 28 that manufacturers had reduced their inventories by $110 million in January to $53½ billion, compared with an average monthly cut of $350 million in Oct.-Dec. 1960); the risk "that anti-recession projects may have a delayed impact, which will aggravate an inflationary boom, is smaller in 1961 than . . . in any previous post-war recession." "We must not shrink from launching needed projects because of misplaced fears of bad timing," the report said.

Treasury Secy. Douglas Dillon told the committee Mar. 7 that the consensus of government economists was that the upturn would start in April. He said the U.S.' balance of payments deficit would disappear during 1963. (Dillon also told the committee that the Administration had revised upwards its expectations of budgetary deficits. He predicted budget deficits for both fiscal 1961 and 1962.)

An economic upturn had been predicted by Commerce Secy. Luther H. Hodges Mar. 12 in a radio-TV interview on ABC's "Issues & Answers." Hodges had told a House Labor & Education subcommittee Feb. 24 that the U.S. was "in a little trouble at the moment" but that he believed the economy would "improve greatly" within 60 days. He repeated this optimistic view at a news conference Feb. 28.

Anti-Recession Action. Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers met in Palm Spring, Calif. Feb. 16 and urged a $2.8 billion budget cut for fiscal 1962 and "first priority to tax-rate revision" as ways to combat the recession.

The AFL-CIO Economic Policy Committee, meeting in Miami Beach, Fla. Feb. 22, said the Administration's anti-recession program was not sufficient. But Committee Chrmn. Walter Reuther, in a Mar. 7 speech in Washington to the legislative conference of the AFL-CIO's Industrial Union Department, urged a labor-led "crusade" to push Pres. Kennedy's anti-recession program through Congress.

Administration moves to spur the economy included: Defense Secy. Robert S. McNamara's Feb. 16 order to speed up the awarding of $650 million worth of military procurement contracts and $40 million worth of construction contracts; and Interior Secy. Stewart L. Udall's order to have the Reclamation Bureau's engineering staff in Denver go on a 6-day, 58-hour week.

Federal Home Loan Bank Board member Ira A. Dixon announced Feb. 18 that the board would add more than $1 billion in available homebuilding credit by: (1) raising to 15% of savings deposits the amount a savings and loan association could borrow; (2) starting a 5-year bond-financed loan program for savings & loan associations; (3) lowering down-payments on houses costing $18,000-$20,000; (4) increasing from 3% to 5% the amount of savings that federal savings and loan associations could lend to buy and develop housing sites.

A speed-up in the $270 million postoffice construction program was orderd by Pres. Kennedy Mar. 2. [See p. 65F2-C3]

Unemployment Grows. Labor Secy. Arthur J. Goldberg said Mar. 8, at a Senate Finance Committee hearing on the jobless-pay bill, that there was "no question we will have an upturn in our economy in April." But, he emphasized, "we still will have more unemployment." This was "a fact of life that we hope to do something about," Goldberg said at a press conference in New York Mar. 13.

Goldberg and Sen. Barry Goldwater (R., Ariz.) had debated their conflicting economic viewpoints over NBC's "The Nation's Future" Mar. 4. The Senator said Administration proposals on unemployment were wrong because (1) "the economy is better than the Administration wants to admit," (2) its minimum wage proposal was "self-defeating, as it will tend to worsen unemployment and increase the cost of living." He said the Administration's proposals would cost the U.S. $7.4 billion.

Goldberg said that 80% of the Administration's programs were "self-supporting" and that "the government has an obligation to respond to human and personal needs, to contribute significantly to a strong . . . economy, to advance and protect equality of opportunity."

Other U.S. News

Eavesdropping Spike Barred. Evidence obtained by use of a device that physically encroached on a defendant's house was barred by a unanimous decision of the Supreme Court Mar. 6. The ruling reversed the convictions of 3 men—Julius Silverman, Robert L. Martin and Meyer Schwartz—convicted as gamblers on the basis of police testimony obtained from a microphone-spike that had been stuck into the wall of their house by District of Columbia police in 1958.

Justice Potter Stewart's majority opinion held that the use of the device was a violation of the Fourth Amendment. "This court has never held," Stewart said, "that a federal officer may without warrant and without consent physically entrench into a man's office or home, there secretly observe or listen, and relate at the man's subsequent criminal trial what was seen or heard." [See Vol. XX, p. 105E-F2]

Legal Prostitution Urged. A grand jury of 13 women and 8 men recommended in a presentment to Judge Charles A. Waters in Philadelphia Mar. 3 that prostitution, lotteries and off-track pari-mutual betting be made legal in Philadelphia. The jury said its proposal could provide revenue and free policemen "for more serious duties." [See p. 76C-D3]

FOREIGN

Austria

U.S. Aid. U.S. economic aid to Austria since 1945 totaled $1,300,397,528, according to a published report released Mar. 10 by the U.S. Embassy in Vienna. The total included $955,219,111 in Marshall Plan assistance, $214,227,147 in non-reimbursable gifts, $51,350,000 for such items as flood and welfare aid and care for Hungarian refugees and $79,600,000 in long-term credits for economic development.

The embassy report said the U.S. was willing to release 10,900,000 schillings ($423 million) in U.S.-controlled counterpart funds if Austria agreed to use the money for economic investments in and aid to underdeveloped nations. [See Vol. XVIII, p. 401A-B3]

Cameroons

Plebiscite. In a UN-administered plebiscite Feb. 11-12, the British-administered UN trust territory of Northern Cameroons voted to join Nigeria, and the British-administered UN trust territory of Southern Cameroons voted for union with the Cameroon Republic. Final returns Feb. 15 showed 145,265 Northern Cameroonians favoring union with Nigeria and 97,654 for joining the Cameroon Republic. Southern Cameroonians, according to final results Feb. 16, favored joining the Cameroon Republic by a 7-3 margin. [See Vol. XX, p. 357B3; XIX, 338C2]

Denmark

Kampmann in U.S. Danish Premier Viggo Kampmann, visiting the U.S., discussed U.S.-Danish trade relations with Pres. Kennedy at a White House luncheon in Washington Feb. 14. [See Vol. XX, p. 413A1]

Nordic Council. The consultative Nordic Council, made up of parliamentary delegates from Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Iceland, met in Copenhagen Feb. 17-25 and recommended that its member governments: (a) consider coordination of their universities and research facilities; (b) study possible aid to underdeveloped nations; (c) establish a Nordic folk high school near Goteborg, Sweden; (d) create an annual $7,350 prize for the best Nordic literature.

France

De Gaulle Woos Americas. French Pres. de Gaulle, in a bid for closer economic ties with Central and South America, suggested in a speech to ambassadors of 20 Latin American nations in Paris Feb. 21 that France and their countries establish "on both sides of the Atlantic a united and renovated Latin world. . . ." De Gaulle said Latin America's need for greater

industrial expansion could be met by France's increased output of machine tools and other equipment.

Reds Purged. The French Communist Party's Central Committee Feb. 24 ousted Marcel Servin, committee secretary, and Laurent Casanova from the party's Politburo. They had been accused of criticizing CP Secy. Gen. Maurice Thorez' stand of complete opposition to Pres. de Gaulle and all his policies. Servin and Casanova retained their committee seats, but Servin was replaced as committee secretary by Georges Marchais. A 3d Politburo member, Maurice Kriegel-Valrimont, also was condemned by the CP for opposing party policies, but no specific action was taken against him. [See Vol. XX, pp. 434E-F2, 38D2, 26B2; XIX, 210G1]

Press Vs. Curbs. French government seizures of newspapers, particularly in Algeria, were protested in a joint resolution adopted by 2 press groups and published in French newspapers Feb. 17. The resolution of the National Federation of the French Press and the Confederation of the French Press, addressed to Information Min. Louis Terrenoire, asked that the constitution's guarantee of freedom of expression be upheld. It proposed that newspaper seizures be limited to 10 copies of an edition rather than the entire edition. It asked for court action to determine the legality of seizures. [See Vol. XX, p. 4E3]

Great Britain

Polaris Sub at UK Base. The U.S. nuclear submarine Patrick Henry, armed with 16 Polaris missiles, arrived at its base in Holy Loch, Scotland Mar. 8 after setting a world underwater cruising record of 66 days, 22 hours in its trip from Charleston, S.C. (Previous record: 66 days 10 hours, set by the George Washington.)

The Patrick Henry was the first U.S. submarine to use the base under a 1960 U.S.-British agreement. In a protest against Polaris subs' use of the base, 4 British pacifists rowed out to meet the Patrick Henry in canoes and a rowboat.

The Polaris submarines' tender, the 18,500-ton Proteus, had arrived at Holy Loch Mar. 3. 6 pacifists in 4 small boats failed in an attempt to intercept the ship as it entered the Firth of Clyde.

About 1,000 persons, protesting the U.S.' Holy Loch base, demonstrated Mar. 4 at the nearby town of Dunoon. The Scottish Council for Nuclear Disarmament, sponsor of the demonstration, said in a letter intended for the Proteus' commanding officer, Capt. Richard B. Laning, that his mission was considered by many Britons as "an act which will increase world tension and block or retard . . . disarmament." [See Vol. XX, p. 454D3]

Royal Tour. Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip left London by plane Jan. 20 for a 21,000-mile tour of India, Pakistan, Nepal, Iran, Turkey and Cyprus. They returned Mar. 6.

Highlights of the tour: More than 1,000,000 persons greeted the queen as she arrived in New Delhi Jan. 21 (after landing in Cyprus Jan. 20) for a 24-day visit to India. At a reception in her honor at Delhi Jan. 28, she lauded Britain's ties with India. The queen flew to Karachi Feb. 1 for a tour of Pakistan and returned to India Feb. 16. When she arrived in Calcutta Feb. 18, demonstrators threw at her car leaflets reading "Go home." About 45 anti-British demonstrators were arrested as the queen arrived in Bombay Feb. 23. Indian parliament member Prabhu Narain Singh, among 15 Socialist Party leaders arrested, said the demonstrators were protesting the "huge expenditure" of her tour, the British role in "repression" in South Africa and the foisting of the English language upon Indians. After a visit to Nepal Feb. 26-Mar. 1, the queen and her husband flew to Teheran Mar. 2 for a 4-day visit to Iran before returning to Britain. [See p. 18C-E2; Vol. XX, 392G1]

Installment Buying Eased. The government Jan. 19 extended from 2 years to 3 the repayment period for installment buying. The action was taken to stimulate lagging sales of homes and autos. [See Vol. XX, p. 163B1]

Aid to Territories. The Colonial Office reported Jan. 17 that government loans and grants to British territories rose from £27,850,204 ($77,980,571) in 1959 to £40,612,353 ($113,714,588) in 1960.

Job for Armstrong-Jones. Antony Armstrong-Jones, 30, accepted a non-salaried position as an advisor with the Board of Trade-supported Council of Industrial Design in London (reported Jan. 18). [See p. 18D2]

India

Naga Statehood Council. Assam Gov. Gen. S. M. Shrinagesh formally established a 45-member advisory council of Naga tribesmen in Kohima Feb. 18 as the first step in the eventual creation of Nagaland State. The council, to operate as an "interim body" for 3 years, was to advise the governor in drawing up the constitution for the state. [See p. 18B3]

U.S. Aid. An agreement giving India a $50 million U.S. Export-Import Bank loan was signed in Washington Jan. 3 by Bank Pres. Samuel C. Waugh and Indian Amb. Mohamed Ali Currim Chagla. The loan, repayable in dollars in 10 years, would help finance India's 3d 5-year economic plan. [See Vol. XX, p. 460C3]

Indonesia

Final Dutch Ties Cut. Indonesia ended its last remaining relations with the Netherlands by asking Britain to stop representing Dutch interests in Indonesia, the Indonesian Foreign Ministry announced Mar. 10. Indonesia also asked the United Arab Republic to stop representing the Jakarta government in Holland. Indonesia had broken diplomatic relations with the Netherlands Aug. 17, 1960 in a dispute over claims to Dutch-ruled West New Guinea (West Irian). [See Vol. XX, p. 392B2]

West New Guinea Votes. 100,000 eligible West New Guineans voted Feb. 18-25 to elect 16 members of a 32-member Colonial Council. The Dutch governor was to fill the remaining 16 seats by appointment. The election, the first in the island's history, was the initial step of a Dutch plan to give the territory self-rule. Final results released Mar. 2 showed 12 Papuans and 3 Netherlanders elected. New balloting was scheduled for the 16th elective council seat since one of the Papuan candidates, Nicholas Tanggahma, had been elected by 2 districts.

The Dutch government submitted to Parliament in The Hague Mar. 1 a 10-year economic development plan to help West New Guinea's 700,000 Papuans achieve independence. It called for annual expenditures starting at 100 million Dutch guilders (about $30 million) in 1961 and increasing each year to a level of 120 million guilders by 1964.

Rebels Fought. Government troops killed 45 rebels Feb. 19 in the Pameung-Peuk district of western Java.

The Indonesian army reported Feb. 23 that 1960 casualties in the drive against rebels totaled 4,828 rebels killed and 7,034 captured and 643 soldiers killed and 236 wounded.

The N.Y. Times reported Feb. 25 that 10,000 rebels, 1,000 of them armed, had surrendered at Lanogan in the Celebes. [See p. 27B3]

West German Loan. A West German offer of a loan reportedly totaling 200 million marks ($48 million) was accepted by Indonesia for its 8-year development plan, it was announced Feb. 2 as a West German mission, headed by Hans-Joachim von Merkatz, ended a 3-day state visit. Half of the sum was said to be in direct credits; the other half consisted of credit guarantees for private West German investments in Indonesia. [See p. 27A-C3]

Italy

Bolzano Dispute. Italy and Austria started discussions in Milan, Italy Jan. 27 on their dispute over the German-language Bolzano (South Tyrol) area of northern Italy. The meeting ended in deadlock Jan. 28 after Italy rejected Austrian proposals for full domestic autonomy for Bolzano's 250,000 German-speaking citizens.

The Bolzano dispute touched off violent incidents in Italy Jan. 30-Feb. 19. A bomb exploded in the Bolzano community of Ponte Gardena Jan. 30. No one was hurt. Italian students staged anti-Austrian demonstrations throughout Italy Mar. 2. 3,000 paraders in Rome clashed with police, and more than 2,000 Italian youths marched in Bolzano. 8 German-speaking youths were arrested Feb. 5 in the Bolzano community of Bressanone on charges of setting fire to an Italian army truck. 5 youths were arrested in the city of Bolzano Feb. 19 during riotous demonstrations sponsored by German-speaking groups. [See Vol. XX, p. 376D3]

Portugal

Angola Violence. 7 Africans were killed and 17 wounded in an attack on an administrative prison near Luanda Feb. 11. An earlier attack on

the prison had been reported by Africans demanding the release of persons arrested in Luanda clashes Feb. 4-7. (7 Portuguese security force members and 26 Africans were killed in the Feb. 4-7 Luanda rioting, it was reported Feb. 10. 100 persons were arrested, including 3 Portuguese.)

The Portuguese government Feb. 10 expelled 4 foreign correspondents from Angola for showing "disrespect" to Col. Francisco Lucena, an Information & Tourism Office official in Luanda. The correspondents had unsuccessfully sought information from Lucena about Charles Brown, a British reporter for the Argus Africa News Service who reportedly was in critical condition after being shot by a Portuguese police lieutenant in Luanda Feb. 9.

Liberia asked the UN Security Council Feb. 21 to investigate the Angola situation. A Portuguese spokesman replied that since Angola was a Portuguese "overseas province," it was outside UN jurisdiction. [See p. 42G3]

Criticism Published. The Portuguese government Feb. 8 permitted Lisbon and Oporto newspapers to publish the text of a statement by 3 Liberal Party opposition leaders criticizing the Salazar regime.

The statement was issued to the newspapers following a Feb. 6 meeting of Pres. Americo Tomas and the 3 Liberals—Mario de Azvedo Gomes, Acacio Gouveia and Eduardo de Figueiredo. It called for a restoration of "fundamental liberties" in Portugal.

A petition signed by 160 persons and issued to the press Feb. 27 supported the Liberty Party leaders and urged Pres. Tomas to "restore fundamental liberties." It called on him to permit political opponents to participate in the November parliamentary elections. [See p. 43B1]

South Korea

Rhee & Aides Lose Rights. South Korean Justice Min. Chae Chun Cho announced Feb. 25 that ex-Pres. Syngman Rhee, in exile in Hawaii, and more than 600 officials who had served in his regime would "automatically" be barred from holding public office and from voting for 7 years. The civil rights of Rhee and his ex-officials were suspended in accordance with a retroactive revolutionary law punishing those responsible for rigging the Mar. 15, 1960 elections and other "anti-democratic activities." [See Vol. XX, p. 249C2]

U.S. Aid. An agreement to provide South Korea with continued U.S. economic and technical assistance was signed in Seoul Feb. 8 by U.S. Amb. Walter C. McConnaughy and ROK Foreign Min. Il Hyung Chung.

The pact was approved by the National Assembly Feb. 28 along with an opposition-sponsored rider aimed at a controversial clause in the agreement. The opposition had charged infringement of South Korea's sovereignty because of the clause granting the U.S. the right to "continuous observation and review without restrictions" of how South Korea administered the U.S. aid. The opposition-sponsored rider said any clause in the U.S.-South Korean agreement contrary to the principle of Korean sovereignty could not be applicable. [See Vol. XX, pp. 479D3, 249C1]

The South Korean hwan was devalued Feb. 2 from 650 to 1,300 to the U.S. dollar.

— LATIN AMERICA —

Bolivia

Teacher Strike. Teachers throughout Bolivia, on strike since Feb. 21, settled Mar. 10 on government agreement to a $5-a-month raise starting in October. [See p. 66B3]

Mine Strike. Miners employed by the State Mines Corp.'s La Paz offices struck for 24 hours Mar. 8, but miners in the Catavi and Siglo districts refused to strike. The strikers demanded higher pay and goods for empty commissaries. They also protested the government's refusal to send a mission to the USSR to discuss a Soviet loan offer to Bolivia of $150 million. [See p. 29C1]

British Honduras

Elections. The leftwing People's United party, headed by George Price, won all 18 elective seats in the newly-expanded Legislative Assembly in Mar. 1 elections. The elections were the first held under a new constitution aimed at granting British Honduras eventual self-government within the British Commonwealth. The constitution expanded elective seats from 15 seats to 18 and provided for 7 appointed legislators. [See Vol. XVIII, p. 142B1]

Chile

Elections. Chilean Pres. Jorge Allesandri Rodriguez' coalition government (United Conservative, Liberal, Radical) retained control of both houses of the legislature in Mar. 5 congressional elections. The government had a 79-64 seat margin in the Chamber of Deputies, and 4 seats were in doubt. Its Senate margin was 24-21. [See Vol. XVIII, p. 295F1]

Costa Rica

Castro Foes Ousted. Cuban exiles José Miguel Tarafa and Orlando Nuñez Perez, leaders of the anti-Castro Cuban Revolutionary Democratic Front, were ordered expelled from Costa Rica Mar. 4 by the Costa Rican government on charges of having organized training camps for an invasion of Cuba. The charges had been presented to Pres. Mario Echandi Jimenez Mar. 3 by Deputies Enrique Obregon and Marcial Aguiluz. Aguiluz was a member of the pro-Castro Friends of Cuba Society. [See Vol. XX, p. 405F2]

Cuba

Morgan, Carreras Executed. U.S.-born Cuban army Maj. William A. Morgan, 32, and Maj. Jesus Carreras Zayas were executed by firing squads in La Cabana Fortress, Havana Mar. 11 after being convicted of sending arms and ammunition to anti-Castro rebels in the Escambray Mountains in Sept.-Oct. 1960. Of 12 other persons tried for the alleged arms plot, 8 received 30-year jail terms, one, Mario Morin, a prosecution witness, was sentenced to 15 years, and 3 were acquitted. [See Vol. XX, p. 380B3]

Exiles Form 'Government.' The N.Y. Herald Tribune reported Mar. 10 that representatives of anti-Castro organizations in the U.S. had met secretly in Washington and organized a provisional government that was to be set up in the Cuban mountains.

The Herald Tribune said that José Miro Cardona, premier during the early days of the Castro regime, had been chosen provisional president. Manuel de Varona, 52, head of the Democratic Revolutionary Front, reportedly was to be premier. The exiles said they would execute nobody if they won power but would let Fidél Castro and his aides leave Cuba unharmed.

(Fighting broke out Mar. 12 among 300 exiled Cubans at a Miami meeting aimed at unifying anti-Castro organizations in the U.S. Among those at the meeting was ex-Cuban Pres. Carlos Prío Socarras.) [See Vol. XX, p. 395E3]

Argentine Mediation Rejected. Argentine Foreign Min. Diógenes Taboada proposed in a cablegram to the U.S. and Cuba Mar. 4 that Argentina mediate the dispute between the 2 countries. The Cuban government Mar. 8 rejected the offer on the ground that the "conduct of the [U.S.] government and public declarations of its officials" showed that the U.S. was not ready to negotiate. [See p. 86C2]

Mexico

Leftist Conference. 2,000 delegates attended a leftist-sponsored Latin American Conference for National Sovereignty, Economic Emancipation & Peace in Mexico City Mar. 5-8. Speeches attacking the U.S. were made at the Mar. 5 session by ex-Mexican Pres. Lazaro Cárdenas and Alberto Y. Casella of Argentina. Cárdenas, Casella and Domingo Vellasco of Brazil, co-sponsors of the conference, were elected conference presidents Mar. 6.

The head of the Cuban delegation, Vilma Espin de Castro, wife of Raúl Castro, said at the Mar. 6 session that Cuba was "ready to make peace [with the U.S.], but on equal terms."

At its final session Mar. 8, the conference approved a series of about 150 resolutions condemning U.S. operation of the Panama Canal and attacking what it called U.S. colonialism and economic aggression. [See p. 67D2]

Anti-Red Convention. Mexico's National Anti-Communist Party held its first annual convention in Mexico Cty Mar. 5-8. In an opening speech Mar. 5 Mario Guerra Leal, president of the party, called for the ouster of Communists from Mexico.

— ECONOMY —

U.S. Corn Investment Peak. Corn owned outright by the U.S. government or under price support loans rose from a record 1.7 billion bushels Nov. 30, 1960 and 1.8 billion bushels Dec. 31, 1960 to slightly more than 2 billion bushels Jan. 31, the Agriculture Department reported Mar. 7. The government's Jan. 31 corn investment

was valued at almost $3.1 billion. The federal investment in all surplus commodities totaled $9.4 billion ($7.3 billion in outright holdings, $2.1 billion in price support loans) Jan. 31, compared with $9.2 billion Dec. 31, 1960 and the record $9½ billion Nov. 30, 1959. $2.9 billion in price supports were extended on 1960 crops as of Jan. 31, compared with $2.8 billion on 1959 crops as of Jan. 31, 1960. [See Vol. XX, p. 381F2]

Farm Supports Raised. Agriculture Secy. Orville L. Freeman Mar. 10 announced these new price support levels: Dairy products—$3.40 a hundredweight for manufacturing milk used in making processed dairy products (an 18¢ increase); butter fat—60.4¢ a pound (an .8¢ increase); rice—$4.71 a hundredweight (a 29¢ increase); peanuts—$221 a ton (a $19.76 increase, and a $9-a-ton deduction for inspection, storage and other charges was discontinued).

Southern Air Routes. The final domestic U.S. coast-to-coast air routes were awarded Mar. 14, effective June 11, by the CAB to Delta and National Airlines. The awards ended a 10-year contest for the southern Florida-California route, operated since 1949 by exchanges between 2 or more airlines. [See p. 30G3]

Acquisitions & Mergers. The Washington Post Co. (publisher of the Washington Post and Times-Herald) Mar. 9 acquired a 59% interest in Newsweek magazine from the Vincent Astor Foundation, majority stockholder since 1959, reportedly for about $8 million. It offered to buy, on the same terms, all other Newsweek shares, including the 25% owned by Chrmn. Malcolm Muir and U.S. Amb. W. Averell Harriman. Newsweek, established in 1933 by Thomas J. C. Martyn and bought in 1937 by the late Vincent Astor, Harriman and his sister Mary Harriman Rumsey, was the 2d largest U.S. weekly news magazine. Its circulation was 1,442,836. (Time magazine circulation exceeded 2,550,000.) [See Vol. XIX, pp. 48E1, 236E3]

The merger of the Delaware Realty & Investment Co. into Christiana Securities Co., the U.S.' largest investment firm, was approved by stockholders Feb. 24.

The FCC Feb. 27 approved a plan for Western Union Telegraph Co. to dispose of its overseas operations, valued at $18 million, to a new corporation, Western Union International, Inc., controlled by the American Securities Corp. $4 million in junior debentures and 400,000 shares of Class A stock in the new firm would be offered first to WU stockholders and then to the public. American Securities would acquire about 133,000 shares (25%) of the stock and would deposit $4½ million in senior debentures with the Prudential Insurance Co. as operating funds. WU's domestic company was permitted to furnish research facilities to the new firm for 5 years after complete separation of its U.S. and international services. [See Vol. XVI, p. 107D2; III, 157F]

The Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co. and the Warner-Lambert Pharmaceutical Co. Feb. 16 ended merger negotiations begun Aug. 22, 1960 and suspended Dec. 14 because of failure to receive Justice Department approval.

These 4 Western railroads applied to the ICC Feb. 17 for permission to merge: Great Northern Ry., Northern Pacific Ry., Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R.R. and Spokane, Portland & Seattle Ry. The merged 24,728-mile rail system, to be known as Great Northern Pacific & Burlington Lines, would be the U.S.' largest road. Its total assets: $1.962 billion. Burlington, jointly owned by Great Northern and Northern Pacific, would be merged into the new company. The Spokane, jointly owned by the Northerns, would be leased to the new company for 10 years. Northern Pacific Pres. Robert S. MacFarlane would be chairman of the new company, Burlington Pres. Harry C. Murphy vice chairman, and Great Northern Pres. John M. Budd president. [See Vol. XX, p. 284C1]

An agreement by Philadelphia & Reading Corp. and Bates Manufacturing Co. for Reading to buy more than 50% of the stock of Fruit of the Loom, Inc. (Pontiac, R. I.) at an estimated cost of $6,600,000, was disclosed Mar. 14 by Reading Pres. Howard A. Newman. The agreement ended a contest between the 2 firms for control of Fruit of the Loom that had started Feb. 1. An SEC suit filed in U.S. District Court in New York Feb. 20 had charged Bates with fraud in its purchase of stock from some selected Fruit of the Loom shareholders at prices higher than Bates publicly had offered. The SEC suit and suits brought by Bates' chairman, Mrs. Sylvania Martin, and a Bates stockholder, Mrs. Mollie Kipnis, prompted Bates to agree to terms under which Reading would buy control of Fruit of the Loom.

Formation of the United Nuclear Corp. by a pooling of resources and personnel of the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp., the Nuclear Development Corp. of America (White Plains, N.Y.) and the Mallinckrodt Chemical Works was announced Mar. 10 by the 3 firms. The new $25 million firm would take over the Nuclear Development Corp., Olin's nuclear fuel division (New Haven and Montville, Conn.) and Mallinckrodt nuclear operations (St. Louis and Hematite, Mo.). Olin would be majority stockholder of the $25 million firm, and its vice president and director, William C. Foster, would become president.

Ship Losses. The Liverpool Underwriters' Association reported Feb. 8 that 114 ships grossing 418,195 tons had been totally lost throughout the world in 1960. 11 tankers totaling 114,682 tons were lost in 1960 through collision or explosion; 61 ships totaling 211,422 tons were lost by stranding. Collision casualties in 1960: 12 total losses, 1,460 part losses. [See Vol. XX, p. 332B3]

Lockheed Fined. The Federal Aviation Agency was reported Feb. 6 to have fined Lockheed Aircraft Corp. (Burbank, Calif.) $6,000 for delivering inadequately-inspected Electras to Eastern Air Lines and American Airlines in Mar.-Apr. 1960 and to Western Air Lines in Oct. 1959.

The companies had found foreign objects in the planes' working parts and missing and loose hardware.

RELIGION

Council Backs Birth Curbs. A statement indorsing artificial birth control as a moral method of responsible family planning was approved by the general board of the National Council of Churches at the end of a Feb. 22-23 meeting in Syracuse, N.Y.

83 board members voted for the statement. 4, representing Eastern Orthodox communions, abstained. There were no votes against the statement. More than 100 board members were absent because of an airline strike. This was the first time the council, representing 25 Protestant and 8 Orthodox church bodies, had taken a stand on the subject.

The statement said: "Christians are agreed that the limitation of procreation may be right and proper . . . under certain conditions, but differences arise in regard to circumstances and methods. The Orthodox Church . . . sanctions [only] marital abstinence. . . . Most of the Protestant churches hold contraception and periodic continence to be morally right when the motives are right. They believe that couples are free to use the gifts of science for conscientious family limitation. . . . Periodic continence (the rhythm method) . . . is not inherently superior from a moral point of view. The general Protestant conviction is that motives, rather than methods, form the . . . moral issue."

The statement condemned abortion "or any method which destroys human life except when the health or life of the mother is at stake." It held that "the destruction of life already begun cannot be condoned as a method of family limitation." It conceded, however, that "the ethical complexities involved in . . . abortion related to abnormal circumstances need additional study by Christian scholars."

The statement gave cautious approval of voluntary sterilization. Special ethical problems were presented by the fact that "medical science cannot guarantee that the procedure is reversible," the statement said.

The statement held that society had an obligation to help parents by giving them "access to appropriate medical information and counsel" for family planning. It said: "Legal prohibitions against impartation of such information and counsel violate the civil and religious liberties of all citizens. . . . Legislation or institutional practices that impair the exercise of moral and professional responsibilities of family-serving professions should be opposed."

The statement asserted that "our government and voluntary agencies have a duty to assist" foreign peoples, when requested, "with various measures to alleviate population pressures and to extend family planning." It pointed out that "public health programs in economically less developed countries, often with substantial assistance from our government, have helped to create new population pressures." [See Vol. XX, p. 175C2, D3]

SPORTS

Patterson Retains Title. Floyd Patterson, 26, of Rockville Centre, N.Y. retained the world heavyweight title by knocking out Ingemar Johansson, 28, of Goteborg, Sweden after 2 minutes 45 seconds of the 6th round in Miami Beach Mar. 13. Johansson arose immediately after the count of 10 to resume the fight but Patterson was ruled the winner. Patterson was knocked down twice and Johansson once in the first round. Patterson weighed in at 194¾ lb., Johansson at 206½ lb.

Immediately after the fight, a U.S. immigration official served Johansson with a federal order preventing his departure from the U.S. Johansson was charged with evading $598.181 in taxes for 1960. The U.S. also demanded that Johansson pay immediately $411.620 in taxes on the $550.000 he earned in the Mar. 13 fight. Patterson received $750,000. [See Vol. XX, p. 216E2]

Fullmer Keeps Title. Gene Fullmer, 29, of West Jordan, Utah retained the NBA middleweight championship by scoring a 15-round decision over Sugar Ray Robinson, 41, of New York in Las Vegas Mar. 4. [See Vol. XX, p. 463A3]